

Hawaii MARINE ON POINT

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Naval Sea Cadets experience Immersion

Cadets get a real taste of military

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Two United States Naval Sea Cadets recently got a taste of what day-to-day life in the military is really all about.

Angela Hurd, and David Rowell spent two weeks with Marines and Sailors at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, undergoing training that involved performing work and observing the daily operations that make up an average day in the military. After successfully completing their training, the cadets advanced in rank.

Hurd, a 15-year-old Pearl City High School student, spent her workdays with Nuclear Biological Chemical Company, Combat Service Support Group 3. During her training with CSSG-3, she followed the Marines through their regularly scheduled workday, completing some of the same tasks the Marines are assigned to do. She even had the opportunity to go through gas chamber training.

"It's really interesting, getting the chance to do something like this," admitted the Pearl City, Hawaii native. "Someone would be surprised to see actually how much work there is to get done."

Hurd has been in the cadet program for two years now, and said that this training experience is helping her to decide which branch of service she will join in the future.

"I had never even really given any serious thought to joining any branch of the military before I joined the cadets," admitted Hurd. "A



Petty Officer 2nd Class Matt Vaughn (right), acoustic sensor operator, VP-9, helps Cadet David Rowell properly don parachute gear.

friend of mine was in and convinced me to go to one of the meetings. I just ended up staying, and now I'm in the process of trying to figure out what military branch I want to join."

Sgt. Laura M. Maguire, NBC non-commissioned officer-in-charge, CSSG-3, volunteered to help with the cadets in the past and chose to



Cadet Angela Hurd, a 15-year-old Pearl City High School student, helps Marines of NBC Company, Combat Service Support Group 3, inventory gear during one day of her training.

dedicate her time to teach Hurd for the week of her visit.

"I had been helping Sgt. Schwarz [cadet operations officer] with the cadets in past, and was happy to do something like this," said the Grovertown Ind. native. "I think it's good for the cadets to see that a woman can do the same things a guy can. We are all the same when we are in the military."

Each day, Maguire exposed the cadet to different experiences. But according to Maguire, not all of her job-related experiences were considered to be "fun," since she wanted to give Hurd the experience of what every day in the military was really like.

"I think this is so good because she gets to really see what labor and hard work it takes to make things work out sometimes," said the 25-year-old. "A recruiter won't advertise this side to you. She gets to see and experience everything, including physical training. I think that's a good thing for someone who plans on joining the military."

On the other side of base, Cadet David Rowell, spent time with the naval personnel of

Assets High School.

"So far I've been on tours and have been learning a lot about aviation operations," said the 15-year-old. "They're giving me a lot of information about being a pilot because that's my goal when I join. I've been wanting to do that since I was a little kid."

Rowell was given the opportunity to try on pilot's gear and climb aboard a P-3 CAIP, just to see how it feels.

"I wanted him to understand the operation of a Naval Aviation Squadron," said Chief Daniel Peabody, flight engineer, VP-9. "I wanted him to see how there is much more to it than the glory of flying. There's a lot of teamwork and coordination to get a mission completed successfully."

Being at the squadron presented an opportunity for Rowell to become familiar with the plane and those who worked around him as they busily interacted with each other. Peabody said that although all of the squadron personnel were involved in getting the aircraft off the ground, most weren't aboard for take off.

"I hope he leaves with an appreciation for the hard work that it takes to make a mission happen," said the Holbrook, Ariz. native. "He is the future military. He will, hopefully, pass word to others his age and they, too, will be interested in something like this."



Above — Petty Officer 1st Class Stephanie S. Burton (left), dental assistant, Combat Service Support Group 3, helps Cadet Angela Hurd roll up her Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear after completing a gas chamber exercise.



Lt. j.g. Robert Andrea, Patrol Squadron 9, discusses the aircraft's maintenance log with Cadet David Rowell.



Naval Sea Cadet Angela Hurd, 15, is the first person in a group of Marines and Sailors to enter the gas chamber, Wednesday afternoon. Part of her cadet training included gas chamber training.